

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

- 5 1. A technical and commercial method of managing information comprising the steps:
providing an information storage and retrieval system containing plural intellectual
property;
enabling access to the information storage and retrieval system by users through an
electronic communications network;
10 receiving instructions for the accessing and amendment of the intellectual property
from the users;
saving the received instructions for accessing and amendment of the intellectual
property;
indexing the received instructions to the intellectual property and to a set of user
15 defined key words, linkages and attributes of, and related to, the received instructions and
the intellectual property.
2. A technical and commercial method of managing information comprising the steps:
providing an information storage and retrieval system containing plural intellectual
20 property;
enabling a user fee based access to the information storage and retrieval system by
users through an electronic communications network;
receiving instructions for the accessing and amendment of the intellectual property
from the users;
25 saving the received instructions for accessing and amendment of the intellectual
property;
indexing the received instructions to the intellectual property and to a set of user
defined key words, linkages and attributes of, and related to, the received instructions and
the intellectual property; and

financing an endowment trust from user fees, said trust set up as a separately managed trust providing enduring funding for the maintenance and operation of the storage and retrieval system to assure continued availability of the intellectual property.

- 5 3. A technical and commercial method of managing information comprising the steps:

providing an information storage and retrieval system containing plural intellectual property;

enabling a user fee based access to the information storage and retrieval system by users through an electronic communications network;

- 10 financing an endowment trust from user fees, said trust separately managed to provide enduring funding for the maintenance and operation of the storage and retrieval system to assure continued availability of the intellectual property.

- 15 4. The method of claim 1 wherein the system providing step comprises interconnecting for operation: a main server, a mirror server, an operational backup system, a disaster recovery system, connection to the Internet and thereby to at least one of: main frame computers, personal computers, personal digital assistants, web TV sets, WAP cell phones, and dedicated Internet connections.

- 20 5. The method of claim 1 wherein the intellectual property indexing step comprises assembling information taken from an aspects list of: intellectual property type, country of publication, author name, assignee, revenue sharing ratio, bank account, keywords, abstract, excerpts, ISBN number, ISSN number, publication date, volume number, issue number, page number, file format, file size, language rating, and violence rating.

- 25 6. The method of claim 1 wherein the access enabling step comprises at least one of the further steps of: reviewing a list of intellectual property retrieved, selecting specific intellectual property to access, selecting a level of access, paying an access fee, receiving the selected intellectual property, and modifying the access file.

7. The method of claim 1 wherein the access level selecting step includes at least one of the further steps of: determining if the user is a member, signing the user as member, accepting agreement, paying membership fee, downloading access software, receiving open credit
5 balance, reviewing fee schedule, selecting level of access, and paying further search and retrieval fees.

8. The method of claim 7 wherein the access level selecting step includes at least one of the further steps of: determining if the user has been granted permission, by the owner of the
10 archived IP, to access to the selected IP. The identity of the users may be verified using methods such as, but not limited to, user id, password, computer id, CPU id, secondary password, smart cards, encoded credit cards and/or 'biometric' identification systems.

9. The method of claim 2 wherein the method comprises the further step of interconnecting
15 for operation: a main server, a mirror server, an operational backup system, a disaster recovery system, connection to the Internet and thereby to at least one of: main frame computers, personal computers, personal digital assistants, web TV sets, WAP cell phones, and dedicated Internet connections.

20 10. The method of claim 2 wherein the intellectual property indexing step comprises assembling information taken from an aspects list of: intellectual property type, country of publication, author name, assignee, revenue sharing ratio, bank account, keywords, abstract, excerpts, ISBN number, ISSN number, publication date, volume number, issue number, page number, file format, file size, language rating, and violence rating.

25 11. The method of claim 2 wherein the access enabling step comprises at least one of the further steps of: reviewing a list of intellectual property retrieved, selecting specific intellectual property to access, selecting a level of access, paying an access fee, receiving the selected intellectual property, and modifying the access file.

12. The method of claim 2 wherein the access level selecting step includes at least one of the further steps of: determining if the user is a member, signing the user as member, accepting agreement, paying membership fee, downloading access software, receiving open credit
5 balance, reviewing fee schedule, selecting level of access, and paying further search and retrieval fees.

13. The method of claim 12 wherein the access level selecting step includes at least one of the further steps of: determining if the user has been granted permission, by the owner of the
10 archived IP, to access to the selected IP. The identity of the users may be verified using methods such as, but not limited to, user id, password, computer id, CPU id, secondary password, smart cards, encoded credit cards and/or 'biometric' identification systems.

14. The method of claim 3 wherein the method further comprises the step of interconnecting
15 for operation: a main server, a mirror server, an operational backup system, a disaster recovery system, connection to the Internet and thereby to at least one of: main frame computers, personal computers, personal digital assistants, web TV sets, WAP cell phones, and dedicated Internet connections.

15. The method of claim 3 wherein the intellectual property indexing step comprises
20 assembling information taken from an aspects list of: intellectual property type, country of publication, author name, assignee, revenue sharing ratio, bank account, keywords, abstract, excerpts, ISBN number, ISSN number, publication date, volume number, issue number, page number, file format, file size, language rating, and violence rating.

16. The method of claim 3 wherein the access enabling step comprises at least one of the further steps of: reviewing a list of intellectual property retrieved, selecting specific
25 intellectual property to access, selecting a level of access, paying an access fee, receiving the selected intellectual property, and modifying the access file.

17. The method of claim 3 wherein the access level selecting step includes at least one of the further steps of: determining if the user is a member, signing the user as member, accepting agreement, paying membership fee, downloading access software, receiving open credit
5 balance, reviewing fee schedule, selecting level of access, and paying further search and retrieval fees.

18. The method of claim 17 wherein the access level selecting step includes at least one of the further steps of: determining if the user has been granted permission, by the owner of the
10 archived IP, to access to the selected IP. The identity of the users may be verified using methods such as, but not limited to, user id, password, computer id, CPU id, secondary password, smart cards, encoded credit cards and/or 'biometric' identification systems.